Mrs W. H. Field 1924

What To Do

For Spotted Wall-Paper

TO REMOVE grease stains from wall-paper, crush magnesia carbonate and place over grease spots for twenty-four hours and not a spot will be in sight.

To Clean A Sieve

PUT salt on the sieve part of the strainer and then rub several times. Wash and rinse thoroughly and you will find your strainer absolutely clean.

If Water Stains It

TO REMOVE hot water marks from polished furniture dampen a cloth in denatured alcohol and rub lightly over the spots. Let stand for a half day to dry. If all marks are not removed, apply again after the furniture is dry.

Fingerprints

TO remove the fingerprints that accumulate on the doorway, use a clean cloth dipped in kerosene, then wipe with a cloth wrung out of hot water.

Save Laundering

WHEN you have a severe cold, use soft paper napkins instead of handkerchiefs. These may be burned immediately and thus the handling of soiled linen is unnecessary. There is also less danger of spreading the cold than when the handkerchiefs are used and are kept until next wash-day.

For Rattley Windows

WHEN windows become loose in their casements and rattle when the wind blows, four thumb-tacks, two on each side, will hold the window firmly in place and allow it to be raised and lowered with perfect ease.

With "Cut Out" Pages

BEFORE cutting paper dolls out of a mangazine paste a piece of thin muslin on the back of the page; this will prevent the dolls from tearing when the children play with them.

If Wash ing Brushes

WASHING hair-brushes is made easy by adding a tablespoon of ammonia to a basin of warm water, them rinsing thoroughly in cold water.

With Heavy Seams

WHEN stitching seams of any heavy material such as cretonne or canvas, rub the seams with any good hard soap, and the needle will go through the goods very easily without breaking.

With Machine Needles

WHEN your machine needle point is broken or the needle is too large, place a piece of sand-paper under the needle, raise the foot and stitch through a few times. It will sharpen the point or reduce the needle to suit your work.

When Thread Breaks

PLACE the spool of thread on the machine with the cut for fastening the thread at the top and the thread will not catch and break.

When Trheading Needles

WHEN trying to thread the small eye of a needle, cut your thread on the biase and you will be surprised how much easier the thread will go through.

With the Boiler

BEFORE putting the clothes-boiler away after using, dry thoroughly, then rub the inside with a cloth dapened with kerosene. It prevents the boiler from rusting.

Save Work In Cleaning the Gas-Range

A SMALL steel-bristled brush, such as is often used for a motor-car, and sand-soap furnishes the necessary equipment and supplies. A small amount of the sand-soap applied to the greasy grates with the steel brush dipped in hot water will remove the grease quickly and easily. The burners may be cleaned in the same way.

To Clean Enameled Ware

COARSE salt dampened with vinegar will clean enameled ware that has become burned or discolored.

Keeping Tea or Lemonade Cold

PICKNICKERS have the problem of keeping tea or lemonade cold. We find it very satisfactory to fill the vacuum bottle with crushed ice and carry the drink in a large fruit-jar. A vacuum bottle that will hold tea for only three people will hold sufficient ice to cool tea for six or eight people.

When Gasoline Leaves a Ring

SOMETIMES when you remove a spot with gasoline you leave a ring about the part cleaned. You can remove this by holding it over the steam of the teakettle.

For Grease Spots

TO REMOVE grease spots from woolen cloth, use vinegar instead of gasoline, as it removes much quicker, and does not leave a ring.

If Fruit Stains Linen

ANY fruit-stain on linen that can not be removed by hot water will disappear like magic by simply saturating the stain with glycerin. Let stand an hour or so, rub between the hands and wash in the usual way.

When Coffee Spills

TO REMOVE fresh coffee stains from table-linen, dampen a cloth with cold water and rub gently. One or two applications will usually be sufficient. This can often be done without leaving the table

Uses For Vinegar

A TEASPOON of vinegar added to the pot-roast or kettle of other meat makes inexpensive cuts of meat more tender than is possible without the use of vinegar. To prevent mold from forming on bacon or ham, wipe the meat with a cloth dampened in vinegar before placing the meat in its covering each time after cutting from it. If mold has already formed, scrape it off, wipe the meat carefully with vinegar and the mold will not form again.

A few drops of vinegar poured over mayonnaise after it has been placed in a small container will prevent a hard crust from forming. Brass and copper utensils are easily cleaned with vinegar and salt. Add the salt to the vinegar and rub the utensil vigorously with this mixture. Vinegar also cleans curtain-rods and brass door-knobs.

A drop or two of vinegar in the water in which eggs are to be poached coagulates the white of the egg and prevents it from spreading about in the water and being lost.

To Facilitate Ironing

A TEASPOON of salt put in starch when cooking prevents it from sticking when ironing.

If Ironing Doilies

TO IRON a round centerpiece so that it will not pucker in the center, always iron from the center to the outside edge.

Save The Ironing-Board

TACK to one end of your ironing-board a piece of asbestos nine inches wide. Place the iron on this asbestos and you will find it a great protection to the cover and to the board.

Flowers Revived

AN ASPIRIN tablet added to the water in which cut flowers are kept will revive them if they have begun to wilt.

To Keep Hands White

DO NOT discard your lemon rinds after using the juice for cooking. Keep them on hand near the sink and use them to rub your hands with to keep them free of stains. Your hands will always be soft and white.

With Onionish Hands

AFTER peeling onions, rub a little dry mustard on the hands, rinse with cold water and all onion odor will be gone.

Save the Hands in Cleaning the Stove

A FELT blackboard eraser is excellent in cleaning the top of the kitchen stove. If grease gets on the stove, it should be rubbed over the top while the stove is still hot. The eraser is much more satisfactory than a cloth and it keeps the hands from getting soiled.

To Keep Hands White

IF IT is necessary to have your hands in water a great deal, keep a perfume bottle of vinegar handy. Shake a little on your hands each time you dry them. It will keep them white and smooth.

Save Rents And Rust Stains

CLOTHES hooks and hangers are not to be found in many a camp and small hotel. The nails that are furnished for clothes are sometimes rusty and in any case are not satisfactory for dresses. An empty spool slipped over the nail will protect the clothing from the sharp edge and prevent rust discoloring. A few empty spools are always a part of my equipment when we start off for trips.

To Clean A Pitcher

WHEN a water-pitcher has become brown inside from hard water, let milk stay in the pitcher until sour. Then your pitcher will be as clear and bright as when new.

To Preserve the Pail

LINE the inside of the garbage-pail with newspapers andwhen the garbage is emptied the paper can be burned. Your garbage-pail can be kept clean and free from impurities very easily in this way.

With a Double-Boiler

THE contents of the inner vessel of a double-boiler will cook more rapidly, if the water in the outer compartment is salted in proportion of a half a cup of salt to two quarts of water.

In Making Starch

TO KEEP starch from sticking to the iron, add a few drop of kerosense to it just before making. This also heightens the gloss.

When Out of Starch

IF you run out of starch when washing use corn-starch in the same way and you will have good results.

With Rice Starch

I HAVE found that if rice is boiled for about fifteen minutes and the water poured off and diluted to the proper consistency it is much better for starching black cotton material than the regular starch.

When Cloth Yellows

WHEN laundering handkerchiefs that have become yellow, use a little cream of tartar in the rinsing water and they will come out white as snow.

To Keep Silks White

WHEN washing a white silk blouse or white satin skirt, put a teaspoon of vinegar in the last rinsing water. This will keep the material white.

In Ironing Pongee

THE correct way to iron pongee is absolutely dry with a moderately warm iron, to prevent shining. It will take out every wrinkle and looks like new.

To Keep Clothes From Freezing

BY ADDING a handful of salt to the water in which the clothes are rinsed, the clothes do not freeze on the line in Winter.

To Keep Wool White

AS SOON as a white-wool dress or suit is taken off, rub over it lightly, wherever even slightly soiled, with unscented white talcum powder and do not brush off until just before putting it on again. This will keep the garment clean indefinitely. Talcum can be bought in bulk very cheaply.

To Keep Apples White

TO KEEP peeled apples from turning brown while standing, cover them with salt water.

To Make Corks Fit

IF CORKS are too large for bottles just soak them in hot water for a few minutes to soften.

In Sandwich Making

WHEN in a hurry to cream butter to spread on sandwiches, if you will pour several drops of boiling water into the butter as you work it with the fork, it will cream instantly and the surplus water will separate itself from the butter and may be easly poured off. This is much quicker and more satisfactory than melting the butter.

If Mice Are About

PUMPKIN seeds are very attractive to mice. Bait your trap with them

With Oldish Rubbers

BEFORE putting away rubbers, rub them with plain vaseline and dry them with a soft cloth. Your rubbers will stay soft and look like new.

If You're Out of Polish

TO POLISH shoes when you haven't any polish, take a piece of lemon and rub all over the shoe. Then take a soft cloth and shine just as if you had used polish. This gives the same result.

For a New Polish

TO POLISH patent-leather shoes successfully, break open a biscuit and rub over them.

Save Silk Gloves

DAINTY baby socks may be made from the tops of long silk gloves when the fingers have worn. Cut the glove-tops the right length and then cut them according to an old sock pattern and run them around on the machine.

With a Greasy Stove

TO CLEAN a grease-spattered cookingstove, dampen a soft cloth in kerosene as it cuts the grease.

With Greasy Woodwork

GREASY paint or woodwork should be cleaned with a cloth dipped in turpentine and then wiped with a cloth dipped in clean water to which a little kerosene has been added.

With Rusty Leather

LEATHER furniture lasts much longer and look better if rubbed occasionally with castor oil. Rub in well.

If Grease Spatters

IF, WHILE on a frankfurter roast or a picnic, you spatter grease on a wool coat or dress, rub the spot with clean white sand and the spot will disappear.

To Remove Soot

IF SOOT is spilled on the floor, before sweeping it up, sprinkle salt on it. The salt keeps the soot together.

For Dull Knives

TO SHARPEN a paring knife draw the edge of the knife quickly over the neck of a crock.

To Clean the Pipes

FOR drains of refrigerators, kitchen sinks, and in fact any except a toilet pipe, a very inexpensive and sure method of cleaning is to fill the opening with baking-soda and then pour in vinegar. It will occasionally take the second application. This method leaves your refrigerator sweet and clean and free from danger of impurities.

If Scouring

WHEN scouring knives and forks, dip cloth or cork in vinegar, then in scouring-powder, and much quicker and better results will be obtained.

For Egg Stains

EGG stains on a silk frock can usually be removed by rubbing with common table salt.

To Remove Gum

THE white of an egg will remove chewing gum from anything. Rub the egg-white on the gum and it removes it from cloth, hair or hands without leaving a spot.

To Dislodge Gum

IF GUM is accidentally besmeared on furniture, rub a little olive-oil with a soft cloth on the spot and all traces of gum will disappear.

To Remove Ink Stains

VINEGAR will remove ink stains very easily. I have even taken India ink from a carpet with it.

Cereals In Soup

ADD left-over breakfast cereals to the soup stock. Children who are tired of oatmeal cereal will eat oatmeal in soup. To six cups of stock use one-fourth cup of cooked cereal, two cups scalded milk, two tablespoons butter, two tablespoons flour, and salt and pepper.

With Sandy Spinach

WHEN cleaning spinach place first in boiling water then in icy cold. This will remove the dirt and sand and keep it fresh.

Save On Eggs

WATER is an excellent egg extender in making meringues. Add one teaspoon of cold water to each egg-white before whipping, then it will not be necessary to use as many eggs for your meringue as if no cold water were added.

When Whipping Cream

TO PREVENT cream from turning to butter when whipping, always add a little sugar before starting to whip.

If Matches Mark Walls

MARKS on paint made by scratching matches can be removed by rubbing with a cut lemon.

For Greasy Paint

TO REMOVE grease from the painted wall above the gas-stove, wipe with a cloth saturated in kerosene, then wipe with a dry cloth.

When Scouring A Sink

A CLEAN sink can be obtained and all stains removed by sprinkling cleaning powder over the stains without wetting the sink. Moisten a cloth with the juice of lemon and scour the spots well. The sink will look like new.

With Rusty Pails

TO CLEAN iron rust from water-pails and dippers, sqeeze lemon-juice in them and let stand for a few hours. If rust is not entirely gone, rub the lemon juice thoroughly over them.

Save On Cleaning Candle-Sticks

INSTEAD of scraping the wax from brass or silver candlesticks, plunge the metal part in hot water and thus melt the wax. Candlesticks are often scratched when the wax is scraped off. By melting off the wax much time is saved and you will not run the risk of marring the candlesticks.

To Keep Twine Unsnarled

INSTEAD of keeping the ball of twine in the kitchen drawer where it unwinds and snarls, place it in a kitchen funnel and hang the funnel in some convenient place. Run the end of the twine through the neck of the funnel. The string is always ready for use and the ball itself stays in place when the string is being taken from it.

Care Of Wet Shoes

WHEN shoes get wet, rub them with a sponge filled with a lather of saddlesoap to prevent the leather from hardening. Next morning a vigorous brushing will leave the shoes soft and pliable.

For a Burned Finger

WHEN you burn your finger, put flour or bicarbonate on it immediately and the pain will not be felt.

When Mailing Money

TO SEND a small coin through the mail, use a narrow strip of adhesive plaster to fasten it to the paper. It will arrive at its destination safely.

With Stamps That Stick

TO REMOVE a stamp, iron over the back of the paper which the stamp is on, and the heat of the iron will take the stamp off immediately.

For Camp Fires

CAMPERS will never suffer the inconvenience of having matches refuse to light if before setting out they are dipped in very hot paraffin. As soon as cool the matches are ready for use and are absolutely damp-proof.

To Strike Safety Matches

SAFETY matches can be struck as easily on a piece of smooth coal as they can on the safety-match box. Smooth iron will also answer. Try the top of the stove.

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